

MPY-2025
6 January 1982

Memorandum for: Director, FBIS

Through : Chief, Operations Group

Subject : Monthly Report, Paraguay Bureau, December 1981

I. GENERAL

A. On the 11th events were set in motion in Argentina which resulted in that country receiving a new president on the 22d. After weeks of speculation, the ruling 3-man military junta finally decided to replace ailing President Viola. They designated one of their own members--Army Commander General Galtieri--to take over as president. When General Galtieri was finally sworn in on the 22d he became the fifth person to hold presidential office in Argentina during the course of 1981.

B. On 11 December it was announced that Peruvian diplomat Javier Perez de Cuellar had been elected UN Secretary General. This is the first time a Latin American has filled this post.

C. The Paraguayan Government closed down the weekly LA REPUBLICA after 6 issues. The apparent reason for the closure was the publication of a document released by the exiled Popular Colorado Movement which was very critical of the government. The bureau had processed and filed the item at the time of its appearance. There is no indication of whether the publication has been banned permanently or just closed down for a limited period.

II. OPERATIONS

A. Editorial/Monitorial

1. Although the OAS Foreign ministers meeting was held outside the Bureau's coverage area, the media covered by the bureau did carry a number of items of interest which were filed. Among these was the lengthy text of the Chilean foreign minister's speech which the Santiago Chile Diplomatic Information Service carried and which the bureau filed in 6 takes.

2. A review of bureau productivity during 1981 showed that the Spanish source file increased 39.5 percent over 1980, the Portuguese language source file increased 33 percent and the English language source file, 401 percent. Our publishable wordage for December 1980-November 1981 was 1,918,990, a 44.3 percent increase over December 1979-November 1980.

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B. Communications

Downtime for the primary communications circuit totalled 1 hour and 50 minutes. Telex tests to Washington and Panama were sent successfully.

C. Lateral Services

1. On 10 December the bureau received a message from the American Embassy in Lima, Peru, noting that the Bureau's "filings on Peru remain a valuable supplement to our other sources, as do those on terrorism in general" but asking that FBIS filing of materials on hijackings not directly involving Peru be discontinued. The request was passed to LRB.

2. On the 11th a request was received from the American Embassy in Santiago, Chile, requesting the text of a Moscow in Spanish to Chile item of the 9th which quoted the 'new U.S. ambassador to Chile in Senate hearings.' The item was texted and filed.

III. ADMINISTRATION

A. Building and Grounds

As reported earlier, the bureau rhombic antenna which is located on the Antelco antenna field and directed against La Paz/Lima was toppled on 14 December by winds reaching 140 kilometers, the highest registered in the Asuncion area in 15 years. Specifically, the terminal resistor and transformer towers were extensively damaged. Repairs estimated at \$2,500 should be completed by mid-January 1982.

B. Personnel

Visitors

[Redacted]

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[Redacted]

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Chief, FBIS Paraguay Bureau

CC: Panama Bureau
Att'd: Eng. Report
Operations Attachment
Monthly Production Report